REMARKS

Claims 1 - 10 are pending in the present application. No amendments are proposed.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following discussion.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner maintains the following rejection:

claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by EPO 0 834 991

A1, (hereinafter EPO '991). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to Applicant's argument that EPO '991 fails to disclose or fairly suggest the

claimed feature of temporarily registering the channel numbers of the channels on which the

received signals are of the predetermined quality or more in a storage device as receivable

channel candidates after performing a pre-scan processing but before a normal san processing is

performed for successively tuning in on the receivable channel candidates temporarily registered

in the storage device, the Examiner takes the following position:

> EPO ' 991 does not perform the second frequency (steps) scan for a channel right
> after the first frequency (steps) scan as argued by the Applicant, because EPO
> '991 includes a memory 7 as shown in the Figure for temporarily storing tuning
> information for the different channels, and these tuning information are
> considered as also included the channels numbers of the channels as claimed. [1]

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[1] Please see, lines 13-17, page 3 of the Action.

However, the Examiner is clearly mis-characterizing the teachings of EPO '991.

More specifically, in column 3, lines 14-29, EPO '991 discloses that the microprocessor 6 starts scanning the frequency range in first frequency steps corresponding with just less than half the minimum symbol rate of the channels that can be expected. Then, during the scanning in the first frequency steps, if the measured RF value is higher than a predetermined threshold value, the approximate position of the center frequency of a channel is found.

However, at this point, EPO '991 does not temporarily store the found approximate position of the center frequency of a channel in the memory 7, as asserted by the Examiner. Instead, EPO '991 clearly discloses that after the approximate position of the centre frequency of a channel is found, "[t]hen the microprocessor 6 switches to scanning the frequency area around the assumed centre frequency in second frequency steps suitable for finding tuning, i.e., steps much smaller than the first frequency steps."[2]

In using the smaller second frequency steps, the microprocessor 6 is able to determine the frequencies at both edges of the channel, estimate the centre frequency based on the average of the edges, estimate the symbol rate from the bandwidth of the channel, and control the demodulator 5 to lock on the channel found. See lines 30-51, col. 3 of EPO '991.

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[2] Please see, lines 30-34, col. 3 of EPO '991.

Only after the demodulator 5 provides an indication to the microprocessor 6 that it has

locked on the channel found, the corresponding information can be stored in the memory for

future use. See lines 51-54, col. 3 of EPO '991.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted EPO '991 fails to disclose or fairly

suggest the features of the present claimed invention concerning first means for performing pre-

scan processing for successively tuning in on channels previously set, to examine whether or not

a received signal on each of the channels is of a predetermined quality or more, and temporarily

registering the channel numbers of the channels on which the received signals are of the

predetermined quality or more in a storage device as receivable channel candidates; and second

means for performing normal scan processing for successively tuning in on the receivable

channel candidates temporarily registered in the storage device by the first means, to acquire and

register necessary channel information.

In view of the aforementioned remarks, Applicant submits that that the claims are in

condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.
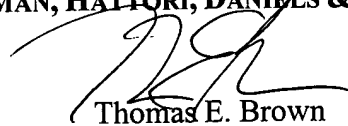
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the

Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to

expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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